

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT United Steel Works, National
Corporation, at Kladno

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DATE DISTR. 27 OCT 50

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	1
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. The production of the United Steel Works* consists mostly of semi-finished steel goods which are sent for further processing to the ironworks at Vitkovice (P50/058) or to the Skoda Works in Pilsen. Such products include: rails (mostly for the USSR); round steel stock in various sizes; special steel (sic); hexagonal iron bars; armor plate of various sizes and thicknesses (60 x 60 x 2 cm, 120 x 120 x 2 cm, and others up to 4 cm thick); structural steel ("Roksor") of different lengths and widths, mostly for delivery to the USSR. "Roksor" is a specially hard steel. Gun barrels made from a single piece of steel and connecting rods for aircraft engines are also produced. Armor plate for tanks has been ordered by CKD in Prague and probably also by Skoda in Pilsen.
2. The works are composed of the following departments:
 - a. Blast furnaces, coke furnaces, Martin furnaces, Dolomite furnaces, calcium furnaces and phosphate furnaces.
 - b. Mechanical workshop.
 - c. Armor shop for rolling of armor plate.
 - d. Tool shop.
 - e. Forges I, II and III where hammered goods (vykovky) are produced.
 - f. Crank shop (krikarna).
 - g. Laboratory.
3. The automatic rolling mill, which has just recently been put into operation, produces round steel 12 to 20 mm in diameter, hexagonal rods 12 to 28 mm in diameter, and special "Roksor" steel 12 to 26 mm thick. Construction of this mill was originally planned by the Germans who brought in all the required

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25X1A

-2-

materials. However, during 1945 these plans were completely destroyed. One of the workers, Josef Vanek, built the mill without plans and is now working on additional equipment. When completed, the mill will have an estimated capacity sufficient to fill 25 to 30 railroad cars per shift. As a reward for his work, Vanek has been made head of the department. A room for testing the physical properties of sheet steel has been added to this department.

4. The manager of the plant is Hlavacek. Two committees have been established in the plant: the Technical Committee, the chairman of which is Ing. Holman, and the Workers' Committee, composed mostly of reliable Communists and Stakhanovite workers. The Technical Committee supervises the technical phase of production. The Workers' Committee is divided into several groups of two or three members each who are on the lookout for sabotage and stoppages.
5. No permanent military liaison officer has been assigned to the plant, but the plant is under the supervision of the Ministry of National Defense as well as the Ministry of Industry.
6. There are about 13,000 persons employed in the workshops and offices of the plant, including voluntary brigades. About 15 percent of the employees are reliable Communists; 80 percent became members of the party after February 1948. The rate of office workers to manual workers is about one to twenty-five. The chiefs of the various departments are changed frequently.
7. The security of the plant is handled by the Security Officer together with members of the Workers' Militia. In addition, the factory and the entrances are guarded by members of the Factory Guard who wear khaki uniforms and are armed with pistols. After finishing work, members of the Workers' Militia take turns at guarding the central power and transformer station for eight hours at night. When on such detail, they wear civilian clothing and carry a pistol. All employees have an identity card with a photograph which entitles them to enter the plant. Temporary employees are given a card without a photograph. No other security precautions, such as air-raid drills, are followed.
8. Near Gate II a new department which will probably be a phosphate furnace is under construction.** Allegedly, the raw materials for this plant will come from Switzerland, Sweden, Norway (ore), Poland and the USSR.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: According to previous reports, these works were formerly known as the Poldi Steel Works.

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** [REDACTED] Comment: See No. 24 of attachment.

Attachment: Sketch of United Steel Works, National Corporation, at Kladno.

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